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TAKE THE TIMES ALONG.

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THE LAST LAUGH.

In the matter of journalistic performance, the House committee's consideration of the measure for public ownership of street railways, will be quite appropriate to suggest that he who laughs last, laughs best.

MR. JUSTICE COVINGTON.

The appointment of Congressman Harry Covington of Maryland to the chief justiceship of the District Supreme Court brings to that place a man who will command the highest esteem of bar and litigants, and who at the same time has such familiarity with the conditions and necessities of the District as to insure that he will very easily become a figure in the local community. During the three terms of his service in the House he has taken much interest, and the right kind of interest, in the affairs of this city, has acquired rather an unusually wide local acquaintance, and established a place for himself in the estimate of the community that naturally led to the suggestion of his name for the place to which he is now appointed. The appointment will be regarded rather a personal one of President Wilson, by reason of the close relations between himself and the Maryland member, and the latter's active part in the development of administration policies. It is also true that the people of Washington will highly approve.

ARE DREADNOUGHTS PASSE?

Admiral Sir Percy Scott, of the British navy, in a published letter that has caused much comment in Great Britain, declares that the dreadnaughts and the huge cruisers that make up the fighting strength of modern navies are out of date. The development of aeroplanes, dirigibles, and submarines, he thinks, have made them impossible. No naval power can safely put so many of its eggs in one basket.

Sir Percy declares that the latest maneuvers of the royal navy have demonstrated that the fighting monsters are not safe from submarines when in protected harbors, with every precaution for guarding them. A flotilla of submarines armed with young and daring officers, he says, would get into any harbor and destroy any fleet. That much was proved to his entire satisfaction by the navy maneuvers, in which the submarines operated without any cooperation from aeroplanes. What he demands to know, would be the result if the minutemen of the air were at the same time at work, attacking from the sky while the submarines were making their assault from the depths?

This verdict comes from the foremost gunner of the present British service. Oddly enough, another British authority finds that Sir Percy is in error in assuming that the submarines and the aircraft have rendered the battleship useless; but his dissenting authority declares that the torpedo has done the damage! It seems to be merely a question between them whether one, two, or three agencies have been devised to render the floating fortress useless and altogether too unwieldy for practical employment.

If we may believe these authorities, the navy of the future will be in an affair of small craft in the hands of young men willing at any minute to take their lives in their hands in the most daring performances. They will not be able for many years to stand the strain of such service.

How public opinion regards the present race for naval strength among the powers, is suggestively illustrated by the reception that the

British commentators have accorded to these views. It is very earnestly urged, for instance, that even if Sir Percy is right, he ought not to have said it: his frank avowal is liable to injure the prestige of Britain's naval power by causing other countries to suspect that her floating fortresses are after all not impregnable, but are as much bluff as substance.

Thus at the last the warfare of matching and overmatching armaments resolves itself again into an economic struggle. The power that leads in battleships must not admit their uselessness, lest it have to start in a new kind of construction, on even terms with competitors. It must maintain an air of confidence in those instrumentalities wherein it excels, because the next thing to winning battles is to keep the possible enemy too frightened to start hostilities.

SHREVEPORT RATE CASE.

The Supreme Court decision in the Shreveport rate case simply means that no State can so control railroads and regulate their traffic rates within its boundaries as to bring such results, directly or indirectly, wittingly or unwittingly, into conflict beyond the border with the national laws and the rulings of the Interstate Commerce Commission acting for the Federal Government.

The Times has repeatedly said that the National Government would never make an interstate regulation or rate and then suffer any local authority to make an intrastate regulation or rate that could nullify the national act. If such a thing were tolerated all the States of the Union—each passing laws and making rulings applying only within its boundaries, but none the less working there to the advantage of cities and interests within its own geographical lines as against every body and everything without those geographical lines—could put the United States Government, with its legislative and administrative efforts at interstate commerce control, out of business.

Fifty-seven varieties of State regulation countervailing a single Federal regulation could produce nothing but interstate commerce chaos. The only rational and effective regulation of any and every rate in or through a State, where interstate commerce is involved in any degree whatsoever, either directly or indirectly, must be by one authority set up and exercised by the central Government. A State law or a State ruling countervailing any command of the National Government to any interstate railroad cannot legally exist. That is exactly what the Supreme Court now says—with the declaration of Mr. Justice Hughes that "it is essential that interstate commerce have one master and not many"—to settle this question for good and all.

A DISAPPEARING PEST.

A bit of cheering information has just been conveyed to the public by entomologists who proclaim that the forest tent caterpillar is falling a victim to its own congested life. This pest has done a vast amount of damage in this country.

This is the caterpillar which builds large community webs or tents in trees and appears in the daytime to devour the foliage. Owing to the large increase in numbers these tents appear like the crowded tenements in city slums. Disease is following as naturally as it followed congestion of the human family. The scientists say that a disease resembling cholera has broken out among caterpillars and they have been found on the ground by hundreds, dying from weakness.

Although nature, reasserting her sway, thus restores her balances by reducing the colonies of caterpillars to comparatively small sizes, man can do much to help the work along. Burning the nests of the pests at night is one sure way of killing the colonies.

It has been some years since Washington has been afflicted with these swarms of caterpillars and the efforts of the District authorities have successfully prevented them from getting a foothold in the early spring.

There was a time when nearly every tree had its band of raw cotton or glued paper around the trunk. Things are different now, but entomologists tell us to be ever prepared to check the incursions of the pests.

AN ALL-SUMMER SESSION.

The touch of really hot weather that came with yesterday brought to a crisis the consideration of the session's legislative program in Congress. President Wilson is understood to insist upon action on all three of the anti-trust measures, so called, to which he has given his approval. Any one of them would insure a considerable prolongation of the session; all three of them can hardly mean less than sitting throughout the entire heated term. It is a program which, so long as it must be considered, deserves attention as an entirety. There are relations and interrelations among these three bills, in their general bearing on the program of govern-

mental regulation of great capitalistic aggregates, that will best be analyzed and understood if all three measures are under analysis together. Indeed, it would very possibly be worth while if all of them could be passed and sent to conference together, so that conferees might have the advantage, in case it seemed desirable, of discussion among themselves. Various details have been pointed out, as to which conflicts might arise unless the three measures are carefully adjusted to the common purpose in mind.

On one of these bills there is general agreement of public sentiment. It is the one for supervision of the capital issues of carriers. For a very long time that sentiment has been growing, and the acceptance of the theory is as general as its administrative application is difficult. On the other hand, the Clayton bill is the subject of bitter differences, and its rejection until after election would not unlikely result in a more effective consideration of its merits and demerits.

However, the President is determined to have the three measures acted upon at this session; and there is no very great doubt that they will all pass. The discussion will be valuable, even though changes may be few, because they will develop and crystallize a better understanding of what is expected to be accomplished. In a time when legislation so constantly interferes with the processes of business, that detailed consideration which carries to the public the best possible understanding of what is being served to it is calculated to make compliance with new laws easier.

THE WORLD'S RAILWAYS.

The Prussian department of public works has just published its report on the world's railroads, bringing its data down to the end of 1912. It finds that there are 650,000 miles of road, which is about 6,000 miles more than the London Times statistician found as of the same date. Doubtless the difference has to do with differences in the definition of a railroad.

A little more than half the world's mileage is in the two Americas, and the United States, with almost 245,000 miles, has no possible competitor among the countries. Germany has only 38,000 miles, yet it is second among the nations. Remembering, however, that Germany is only about as big as Texas and Iowa added together, that country stands high in the actual density of railroad lines.

Belgium, which is the most densely populated country, has more railroad in proportion to area than any other country, with over forty-seven miles to every 100 square miles. Australia, which is the least densely populated of the highly civilized countries, has the greatest mileage in proportion to population.

The United States has more railroad than Europe in proportion to either mileage or population. Europe has 5.63 miles to every 100 square miles, while the United States has 6.92 miles.

The marvelously rapid development of this country is perhaps better illustrated in this field of railroad construction than in any other. It is true that this country needs, and always will need, more railroad mileage than Europe will require. The irregular coastline of Europe brings the sea, with the cheapest of all transportation, to the doors of a very large proportion of her teeming millions, while the solid body of our territory with vast interiors in which millions of people live who have never been within hundreds of miles of salt water, necessitates other transportation. There is no such disparity in facilities as would be suggested by a mere consideration of mileages.

But on the other hand the fact remains that the United States, a new and almost unoccupied country when railroad building began, has been able to provide itself with these facilities. They have come out of the industrial product of the country; they could not have come if there had not been, back of the demand for them, an economic condition that justified the investment in them. No country is so far dependent on its railroads for its general prosperity. None would suffer such paralysis in case of their failure to develop and improve in step with the requirements of the community. None, therefore, has such pressing need to look to the wisdom of policies which stand for the public attitude toward these facilities.

Trunks Nailed to Floor

Kept Players in Town

NEW YORK, June 9.—When the members of Al Cohn's Long Island Stock Company went to the Saville Opera House, where they had played Saturday night, to get their trunks, they found the doors nailed with railroad spikes. Then every one of the fifteen trunks were found nailed to the floor. Two hours more work for the carpenters.

As a result the company was not able to leave town until evening. Whether it was the work of a Saville bear who wished to delay parting with a sweetheart in the company or of vandals is not known.

The News of Society

By JEAN ELIOT.

GOES FOR SUMMER



MRS. HENRY BRECKINRIDGE.

THE PRESIDENT will attend the reunion of the class of '79, at Princeton, on Sunday. Mr. Justice Pitney, who is a member of that class, also will be there.

The President, Miss Helen Woodrow Jones, and Dr. Cary T. Grayson occupied a box at Keith's Theater last evening.

Mr. Justice Pitney and Mrs. Pitney will leave Washington tomorrow for Princeton, to be present at the graduation of their son, Shelton Pitney. From Princeton Mrs. Pitney and their younger children will go to Morristown, N. J., to remain until Mr. Justice Pitney joins them after the adjournment of the Supreme Court.

Mr. and Mrs. Perry Johnson are making a motor trip through Virginia prior to going to their place in Canada for the summer. With Dr. and Mrs. Hugh McGuire, of Alexandria, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson passed Sunday at the White Sulphur.

Mrs. Henry Breckinridge, wife of the Assistant Secretary of War, accompanied by their little daughter, will leave Washington today for New Hampshire, where they have a summer place. Mr. Breckinridge will make brief visits to his family during the summer.

Miss Lucy Burleson, daughter of the Postmaster General and Mrs. Burleson, who was operated on at Johns Hopkins University Hospital recently, for the removal of her tonsils, is recovering rapidly.

Mrs. Burleson and her daughter will take a cottage for the summer. They have not decided upon the exact location. Mrs. Richard Van Wyck Negley, of Austin, Tex., who has arrived in Washington for a visit to her parents, will spend the summer with them.

Dr. and Mrs. Alexander F. Magruder announce the engagement of their daughter, Isabel Richardson Magruder, to Ensign Kent Rowbottom, U. S. N. The wedding will take place in the late summer or early fall.

Dr. and Mrs. Alexander F. Magruder have closed their house in Jefferson place and are now at their country home at Annapolis, Frederick county, Md., for the summer.

Mrs. Richardson Clover and her two young daughters, who arrived in Washington a few weeks ago from Europe, will leave again tomorrow, when they go to their California home for the summer.

Mrs. Thacher and the Misses Thacher, wife and daughters of Congressman Thacher, have closed their house here and have gone to Yarmouthport, Mass., for a part of the summer.

The Stanses minister and Lady Prabha Karavongse, accompanied by the first secretary of legation, Mr. Loftus, and the other members of the legation staff, will leave Washington today for Gloucester, Mass.

GOOPS

By GELETT BURGESS



Theodore Van Fleet

I hate to walk along the street
When Goops like Theodore Van Fleet
Are playing ball—They're sure to throw
A ball that goes near me, I know!
Please do be careful when you play,
Or you will hurt someone some day!

Don't Be A Goop!

where the location will be established for the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. L. C. children preceded them on Saturday.

Miss Martha Howers, whose engagement to Robert Taft recently was announced, is spending a week in Cincinnati with Miss Helen Taft, visiting the latter's cousin, Miss Catherine Anderson. Numerous hospitality have been arranged for the girls.

Mrs. Scheuer, of Newark, N. J., has returned to her home, after a short visit to Mrs. A. King.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Strauss left Washington last week for Indianapolis, where they will visit their daughter, Mrs. S. Myer.

Mrs. R. J. Silverman and son have gone to Old Point and Atlantic City for a stay of several weeks.

Mrs. John Magruder is closing her house in S street, and, with Miss Natalie Magruder, will leave Washington today or tomorrow for their summer home, Wolcott, on Lake Champlain, stopping en route at New York for a short visit.

Mrs. Hugo Osterhaus, wife of Lieut. Commander Osterhaus, U. S. N., will relinquish her house at Annapolis during her husband's absence at sea, and pass the summer with her sister, Mrs. W. C. Taylor, Jr., at the latter's home at East Orange, N. J.

The Secretary of War and Mrs. Lindley M. Garrison will leave Washington today for New York and West Point. They will spend Thursday and Friday at the Military Academy, and will return to Washington Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Parnelle will close their place this week and will leave Washington for their farm at Painesville, Ohio, where they will spend the summer.

Mrs. E. H. G. Slater and Miss Mary Gwynn, who are abroad, are expected to arrive in this country the first of July, and go immediately to Mrs. Slater's cottage at Newport.

Miss Helen Taft will be among the bridesmaids for Miss Eleanor Roelker, whose marriage to Harrison Tweed will take place on June 24, in East Greenwich, R. I.

Miss Roelker visited in Washington frequently during the Taft regime.

Mr. Barr, of the Wyoming, will be hostess at a bridge party at the Country Club on Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Thomas G. Patten, wife of Congressman Patten, of New York, will go to Monmouth Beach, N. J., about the middle of the month.

Senator and Mrs. Stone of Missouri will entertain at a dinner this evening at the Dresden.

The Speaker and Mrs. Champ Clark will go to Huntington, W. Va., Friday, where the Speaker will address the graduating class of Marshall College, of which he was president at the time he was but twenty-three years old.

Mrs. William Sheffield Cowles, sister of Colonel Roosevelt, arrived in New York a day or two ago from her country place at Farmington, Conn., and is a patron at the St. Regis.

Mrs. Henry Y. Satterlee has arrived at Newport, and is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. Rhinelander at the Belton villa.

Miss Rose McCormick is spending some time at Muenchinger King, at Newport.

Company E, of Business High School, was given a banquet last night in honor of winning the annual competitive drill. The banquet, held at the home of Sergeant Wassmann, came as the result of a promise made by his father previous to their victory.

The home was decorated with the school's colors, and many pennants and flags floated in the room.

The fifty members of the company were present, and among the guests were Allan Davis, president of the Business High School; Charles Hart, Dr. Meriwether, of the faculty; Major MacCathran, military instructor for the Washington High School Cadets, and Captain Pedlow, of Company G.

Speeches were made by Captain Connor, Lieutenants Schaaf and Sandford, of the winning company; Mr. Davis, Mr. Hart, Dr. Meriwether, Captain Pedlow, and by Major MacCathran.

JUST A MOMENT

DAILY STRENGTH AND CHEER.

Compiled by John G. Quinius, of the Sunshine Man.

Christianity is permeation—it permeates all evil with good—it desires to transfer the spirit of the Day of Rest into all other days and to spread holiness over all the world—Well-Springs of Wisdom.

It is an easy thing to do a thing tomorrow. It is a pinch for one to do it by-and-by.

The Men whose life is sunny are the men who have the money.

Is the man whose aunt is "Do it now or die?"

There's a stumble stone that's called procrastination (Ask the man who lost his nerve to tell you why).

For the man whose up and coming. And who keeps the wheels a-churning. Is the man who cuts "tomorrow" from his cry.

There's a sure way to be a "might have been."

It's a snap to pick a "has been" on the run. It's the man who's always moping. And in future always hoping. He's a "going-in-do" who never gets it done.

Is it up to you to take this gentle knocking? Will you blink to have the search-light aimed your way?

Are you always borrowing arrows? With your hopes fixed on tomorrow? If you are, old man, just do your duty today.

See that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently.—Peter 1:22

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart.—Mark 12:30

Golden Text: The salvation of the righteous is of the Lord.—Psalm 124:8

The Silver Lining

Edited by ARTHUR BAER.

THE OLDEST INHAB SEZ—

"Them A. B. C. chaps and them I. W. W. fellers should be asked to resign from the alphabet."

England alarmed when men break into King's palace. No alarm felt in the White House. Nobody can break in there until 1916.

Lot of mild-mannered men tolerate a cat around the house simply because they have something to kick when the home team loses.

All depends on point of view. Young man raising first pure mistake naturally has it more credit than the casual observer. Sometimes not sure whether to ascend by the freight or passenger elevator.

Mexican gunboat named "Bravo." Why not the "Bragadocio"?

German writer says we will all live in glass houses soon. Not in England, until the militants are awarded votes.

Lot of folks looked at home on the "Success."

Hot day yesterday. Like to be a mediator. Stand in the Niagara Falls up to our neck.

Huerta has given up wine and taken to grape juice. Forsaken the Catawba for the Chautauqua drink.

In spite of his drinking grape juice, Huerta is not to be accused of that sort of diplomacy.

Rear Admiral Fletcher commends our men for gallantry at Vera Cruz. Glad our men are gallant abroad. Never see much of it on Fourteenth street cars.

MAIL BAG

(From The Times Readers.)

To the Editor of THE TIMES: Pictures of Creation at Belasco Theater are apt to mislead some people in that they misrepresent labor.

One picture shows a meeting of the Industrial Workers of the World and a crowd of people. This is said to represent the people's fight against exploitation and slave labor. They believe trade unions are not effective. There is a misuse of right against wrong. Therefore Christianity should recognize the fight of the workers against their oppressors.

Another picture shows Samson stretching forth his great arms and destroying the temple and people. This picture is said to represent Socialism. This is a wrong idea. The picture typifies capitalism. Capitalism is destructive. It enslaves, robs, and destroys. I do not mean capital. The capitalist class concentrating its wealth in trusts, exploiting the people is called capitalism. It is not going to break the trusts; but it is going to destroy itself.

Those who understand socialism say that it is constructive, evolutionary and inevitable. Only resistance to it is destructive.

HENRY S. PRISBIE, Bethesda, Md.

THE YOUNG LADY ACROSS THE WAY

We asked the young lady across the way if she thought the new styles carried any evils in their train and she said strict dresses weren't made that way any more and were perfectly sanitary.

Professor says ice cream and candy are sure cures for delirium tremens, and along comes the Government and buys thirty tons of candy for the reserve Atlantic fleet. No inuendoes, merely a statement of facts.

Government also buys 50,000 packages of salt peanuts for the jolly tars of the same fleet. Those things create an awful thirst. Better hurry up and eat 'em. Remember July 1.

Old masters who painted their masterpieces on masonry and ceilings seen several centuries ago displayed keen foresight. Must have known that some day militants would carry balustrades.

While the Congress is not unduly strict, prompt obedience is required of all. The routine of the daily life is as follows: The household rises at 6 a. m., chapel is at 7:30, after which the regular work of the house begins. Dinner is at 12:30, and then there is recreation until 3 p. m. Supper is served at 5:30, and the evenings are spent in various ways, but always closing with chapel at 8:30, which service the chaplain, the Rev. William Taylor Snyder, conducts once a week. Deaconess Yeo conducts services at other times.

The welfare and happiness of the children as well as the mothers is duly considered, and in many cases it is not always the mother's own conditions she is given the privilege of leaving the baby, for whose care the mother is responsible.

The origin of the euphonic name, House of Mercy, is unknown to me, therefore the brief history of this institution, which it is my pleasure to write, will not be as complete as its reorganization by the first Bishop of Washington, the late Henry H. Satterlee, in 1900, the house, 248 K street, which had been closed for some months, was reopened with a new board of managers, of which Mrs. Harriet Lane Johnston was elected president; Mrs. Anton Heald, vice president; Mrs. Hammond, secretary, and Mrs. McGowan, treasurer.

The house, which was found very much out of repair, was immediately put in order, and this splendid band of women went to work to raise money for this inspiring work.

Entertainment Starts Fund. The first entertainment given by the house was a "kettledrum" at the New Willard, through the generosity and interest of the owners and managers. This was the beginning in Washington of entertainments at hotels for charity, and the sum realized was handsome enough to cause great exultation to these earnest women.

After the death of its first distinguished president, Mrs. Henry Johnston, Mrs. John McGowan became president of the board of managers of the House of Mercy, and for some years she conducted its affairs ardently and ably. Upon her retirement from office, Mrs. Julian-James was elected president, and she not only being satisfied with "well doing," did even more. In 1911, during her presidency, she presented the diocesan assembly a superb lot with the understanding it was to be used for a new House of Mercy.

When Mrs. James built the new House of Mercy it was with the understanding that the old building was to be sold, and the amount realized added to the endowment fund. This compact has been faithfully carried out, and the income of the institution thereby considerably enriched. The plans for the new building were made by Nathan Weyth, who kindly donated his services, and the builder, Charles A. Langley, followed his fine example.

The money toward building the infirmary was raised by the almost superhuman efforts of Mrs. McGowan, to whom every member of the board felt deeply indebted.

The plate on the door of the infirmary reads as follows:

"Infirmary erected by Board of Lady Managers Association for Works of Mercy, 1911, and other friends."

In the attractive chapel, where the household gathers twice a day or worship, are a number of memorials, but none so kindly and more venerated than the one presented by the board, a number of years ago, in memory of the late Reverend Bailey Myers, a beloved gentleman whose generosity and kindness will live while the House of Mercy lasts, "though lost awhile" to those who revere her memory.

Truths By Women Who Know

Home Gives Help to Girls in Need

The House of Mercy

In the House of Mercy fallen girls are uplifted and given a view of a higher moral plane of life, there they are taught to take care of themselves and their children, who are allowed to remain with them. The welfare of the children is considered important, and is looked after there.

Mrs. Josephine E. Brown, wife of Justice H. B. Brown and president of the House of Mercy, relates in this article the noble purpose of this charity and the method used in carrying it out, besides telling of some of the fine women of whom Washington should be proud, who have made this rescue work possible.

By MRS. JOSEPHINE E. BROWN.

The House of Mercy, Park road and Twentieth street, is distinctly an Episcopal charity, under the auspices of a board of trustees, of which the bishop of Washington is president, and a board of lady managers. It is an interesting fact to state that this charity is the only home of its kind under the direction of the Episcopal Church south of Jersey City.

The object of this institution, which is open to all, is to uplift fallen girls by trying to raise them to a higher moral plane by teaching them, through work, how to help themselves, whereby they may become honest, useful women. I desire to call attention, especially, to one phase of this work decidedly unusual in rescue work, mother and child are kept together, and the hope of inspiring, often with the most satisfactory results, the mother love for the forgotten child. A large majority of the young women who enter the House of Mercy are second age, some as young as fourteen, and they are received both before and after marriage. A girl is allowed to enter the institution after a second offense, consequently, as it can be readily seen, this home is not a home for the depraved, but for the confiding, unfortunate, young girl.

Under the most watchful care the inmates are taught cooking, laundry work, sewing, house work, and the care of children. It is the policy of Deaconess Yeo, its manager, to make a girl in the House of Mercy a self-sufficient manager of her own life, to make the daily life of each inmate as home-like as possible.

Daily Routine at Home. While the Congress is not unduly strict, prompt obedience is required of all. The routine of the daily life is as follows: The household rises at 6 a. m., chapel is at 7:30, after which the regular work of the house begins. Dinner is at 12:30, and then there is recreation until 3 p. m. Supper is served at 5:30, and the evenings are spent in various ways, but always closing with chapel at 8:30, which service the chaplain, the Rev. William Taylor Snyder, conducts once a week. Deaconess Yeo conducts services at other times.

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